

Minutes
The City of Frederick
Mayor and Board of Aldermen
Workshop

November 5, 2014
3:00 p.m.
City Hall Board Room

- I. Mayor McClement called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. Also present were Alderman Kelly Russell, Michael O'Connor, Philip Dacey, Joshua Bokee and Alderwoman Donna Kuzemchak.

II. Workshop

Item 1: Liza Mroszczyk Murphy, Historic Preservation Planner led the discussion of an application to designate Renn Farm as a Historic Resource.

Bruce Dean and Jim McIntosh of Linowes and Blocher spoke on behalf of the Renn family and requested denial of the application.

Joe Adkins, Deputy Director for Planning provided additional information.

Karl Morris of Matan Companies provided information regarding the concept plan for the farm and expressed his desire to work with City staff to come up with a solution that would appease all parties involved.

Saundra Nickols, City Attorney provided information on the process of pulling Demolition Permits.

This item will move to a Mayor and Board of Aldermen Public Hearing.

Item 2: Lisa Mroszczyk Murphy presented the proposed Guidelines for Individual Landmarks and Small Historic Districts.

This item will move to a Mayor and Board of Aldermen Public Hearing.

VI. Elected Officials' Comments

Alderwoman Kuzemchak congratulated the newly elected officials and said that she looks forward to working closely with them. She conveyed her excitement at having two former Aldermen elected as State Delegates and expressed how beneficial having them in Annapolis will be for the City. She said congratulations to all of the winners and to citizens for having their candidates chosen. She also congratulated Karen Young and Carol Krimm on their newly elected positions as State Delegates.

Alderman Dacey agreed with Alderwoman Kuzemchak and said that he is excited to work with the newly elected officials.

Alderman Bokee echoed the sentiment of Alderwoman Kuzemchak and Alderman Dacey. He stated congratulations and said that he looks forward to working with the new County Executive and Council as well as the state level folks.

Alderman Russell also echoed the congratulations to the winners of the election and also to everyone who had their hat in the ring and went through process. She said that campaigning for public office is a long and labor intensive process and everyone who participated is to be commended. She said she looks forward to the new crew. She also reminded folks to fill their bags for the Boy Scouts food drive this week and said that they will be picking up the bags filled with goodies Saturday morning before 9 am to help those in need.

Alderman O'Connor agreed with his colleagues. He also stated that candidates, their supporters, and families take the process very personally at times, and the result of that is a level of rhetoric that is disrespectful to the voters and can affect their involvement. He said that the language and how public officials speak to one another and approach campaigns is very important. He said that in the heat of the last election, lots of words were exchanged and he said that as elected officials, they have to hold themselves to a higher standard than that and must change the way we conduct elections. He said that the name calling and bashing is not constructive and if they don't figure out a way to conduct campaigns that are issue oriented we will end up with a dysfunctional government. He also commented on the very distressing and dangerous fire in downtown Frederick this week. He commended the first responders who to the maximum extent possible preserved the loss of life and property. He commented on the danger of that line of work and expressed his gratitude at their response. ...

Mayor McClement echoed the congratulations in regards to the election. He commented that elections are an interesting process, and said that when all is said and done we must move forward as this administration is doing. He agreed with Alderman O'Connor about changing the tone of campaigning. The Mayor also commented on the South Market Street fire and said that every truck from the City and County responded. He thanked Washington and Montgomery Counties for backfilling stations so that the departments could adequately respond. He also conveyed his amazement at what the first responders do and thanked neighbors who helped one another.

This meeting was adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lauren O'Malley
Recording Clerk